

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# SENATE BILL NO. 263

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR GRIESHEIMER.

Read 1st time January 31, 2005, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

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## AN ACT

To repeal section 190.292, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to election of emergency services board members.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 190.292, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 190.292, to read as follows:

190.292. 1. In lieu of the tax levy authorized under section 190.305 for emergency telephone services, the county commission of any county may impose a county sales tax for the provision of central dispatching of fire protection, including law enforcement agencies, emergency ambulance service or any other emergency services, including emergency telephone services, which shall be collectively referred to herein as "emergency services", and which may also include the purchase and maintenance of communications and emergency equipment, including the operational costs associated therein, in accordance with the provisions of this section.

2. Such county commission may, by a majority vote of its members, submit to the voters of the county, at a public election, a proposal to authorize the county commission to impose a tax under the provisions of this section. If the residents of the county present a petition signed by a number of residents equal to ten percent of those in the county who voted in the most recent gubernatorial election, then the commission shall submit such a proposal to the voters of the county.

3. The ballot of submission shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the county of ..... (insert name of county) impose a county sales tax of ..... (insert rate of percent) percent for the purpose of providing central dispatching of fire protection, emergency ambulance service, including emergency telephone services, and other emergency services?

YES                       NO

If a majority of the votes cast on the proposal by the qualified voters voting thereon are in favor of the proposal, then the ordinance shall be in effect as provided herein. If a majority of the votes cast by the qualified voters voting are opposed to the proposal, then the county commission shall have no power to impose the tax authorized by this section unless and until the county commission shall again have submitted another proposal to authorize the county commission to impose the tax under the provisions of this section, and such proposal is approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting thereon.

4. The sales tax may be imposed at a rate not to exceed one percent on the receipts from the sale at retail of all tangible personal property or taxable services at retail within any county adopting such tax, if such property and services are subject to taxation by the state of Missouri under the provisions of sections 144.010 to 144.525, RSMo. The sales tax shall not be collected prior to thirty-six months before operation of the central dispatching of emergency services.

5. Except as modified in this section, all provisions of sections 32.085 and 32.087, RSMo, shall apply to the tax imposed under this section.

6. Any tax imposed pursuant to section 190.305 shall terminate at the end of the tax year in which the tax imposed pursuant to this section for emergency services is certified by the board to be fully operational. Any revenues collected from the tax authorized under section 190.305 shall be credited for the purposes for which they were intended.

7. At least once each calendar year, the board, as established by subsection 11 of this section, shall establish a tax rate, not to exceed the amount authorized, that together with any surplus revenues carried forward will produce sufficient revenues to fund the expenditures authorized by sections 190.290 to 190.296. Amounts collected in excess of that necessary within a given year shall be carried forward to subsequent years. The board shall make its determination of such tax rate each year no later than September first and shall fix the new rate which shall be collected as provided in sections 190.290 to 190.296. Immediately upon making its determination and fixing the rate, the board shall publish in its

minutes the new rate, and it shall notify every retailer by mail of the new rate.

8. Immediately upon the affirmative vote of voters of such a county on the ballot proposal to establish a county sales tax pursuant to the provisions of this section, the county commission shall appoint the initial members of a board to administer the funds and oversee the provision of emergency services in the county. Beginning with the general election in 1994, all board members shall be elected according to this section and other applicable laws of this state. At the time of the appointment of the initial members of the board, the commission shall relinquish and no longer exercise the duties prescribed in this chapter with regard to the provision of emergency services and such duties shall be exercised by the board.

9. The initial board shall consist of seven members appointed without regard to political affiliation, three of whom shall be selected from, and who shall represent, the fire protection districts, ambulance districts, sheriff's department, municipalities, and any other emergency services. Four of the members of the board shall not be selected from or represent the fire protection districts, ambulance districts, sheriff's department, municipalities, or any other emergency services. Any individual serving on the board on August 28, 2004, may continue to serve and seek reelection or reappointment to the board, notwithstanding any provisions of this subsection. This initial board shall serve until its successor board is duly elected and installed in office. The commission shall ensure geographic representation of the county by appointing no more than four members from each district of the county commission.

10. Beginning in 1994, three members shall be elected from each district of the county commission and one member shall be elected at large. The members of the board shall annually elect, from among their number, the chairman of the board. Of those first elected, four members from districts of the county commission shall be elected for terms of two years and two members from districts of the county commission and the member at large shall be elected for terms of four years. In 1996, and thereafter, all terms of office shall be four years. **The election of the board members shall be conducted at the first municipal election held in a calendar year.**

11. When the board is organized, it shall be a body corporate and a political subdivision of the state and shall be known as the "..... Emergency Services Board".

12. This section shall only apply to any county of the third classification

without a township form of government and with more than twenty-four thousand five hundred but less than twenty-four thousand six hundred inhabitants.

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